

Regional Service Council Minutes

Region 16

Meeting Date: January 26, 2006

Meeting Location: Haub Steak House, Haubstadt, Indiana

Council Members Present: Regional Manager Virginia Combs
Judge Brett Niemeier
Larry Marchino
Judge David Kelly
Judge Timothy Crowley
Julie Weeks
Sheila Bridges
Steve Cunningham
Juanita Working
Susan Blackburn
Chris Hoehn

Council Members Absent: None

Others in Attendance: Lark Buckman
Judith Harper
Michelle Stagg (from Regional Youth Services)
Laura Keys (from Regional Youth Services)
Valerie Nicholas
Judge James Redwine

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Regional Manager Virginia Combs. On a motion by Juanita Working, seconded by Judge Kelly, minutes of the December 13, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved. Everyone attending the meeting introduced themselves and Family Case Manager Supervisor Sheila Bridges from Vanderburgh County was recognized as the new Council Member representing Supervisors from within the region.

1. Mrs. Combs made a brief presentation about the IV-B Request for Proposal (RFP) process and distributed a spreadsheet detailing proposed providers, services, and counties to be offered services. She reported there will not be sufficient IV-B dollars to fund all services that local offices want and counties will have to supplement desired services with local funding. She explained that Directors reviewed all proposals and scored them; recommendations for funding services will be made later in the meeting. Some providers made proposals for some counties but not all; such providers will be requested to offer services in all counties if that service is not available from another provider. Mrs. Combs explained that we want

services to be offered throughout the region in order to benefit children and families. Several questions were asked and Mrs. Combs answered all questions. The next step in the selection process will be to determine the amount of IV-B dollar per provider and service. As there was no further discussion, Council Member Larry Marchino moved to approve the selection of IV-B providers as listed on the Region 16 Master List of Selected Services; the motion was seconded by Council Member Juanita Working and unanimously approved.

2. In additional business, Judge Crowley expressed concern about proposed legislation regarding specific timeframes for CNS hearings, including reviews of CHINS every three months. He attended a meeting where Judge James Payne, DCS, Director, presented justification/explanation for the proposed legislation. Judge Crowley explained that some judges aren't 100% juvenile and that other court responsibilities suffer as the result of fast-tracking juvenile cases. He further stated the three month review requirement would double the work for Family Case Managers. He did not question the value of more frequent reviews but felt that should be at the discretion of the local court. Judge Niemeier asked if the three month review is a federal requirement.
3. Mrs. Combs stated the Indiana Prevention for Child Abuse Council will be offering two one-half day sessions for service provider interaction; this will be a joint effort with the Regional Services Planning Council. Mrs. Combs asked for input in planning such an event.
4. Mrs. Combs reported the next meeting will be February 23, 2006, 5:00 p.m. at Haub Steak House, Haubstadt, Indiana. Included on the agenda for that meeting will be an update on the IV-B allocations and provider responses to requests to offer services in additional counties.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Virginia L. Combs
Region 16 Director